A Representation of Great Evils, Arising by the Exportation of Wooll.

Shewing bow it affects the Poor, Trade and Traders, Lands, and the King and Kingdom in general, with a short View of an easie Remely, Humbly offer'd to the Honourable House of Commons.

By William Woodford.

Xportation of Wooll will certainly Impoverish and Weaken our own Nation, and Enrich and Strengthen others. By taking away the Employment of our Poor, and employing Foreigners. By Ruining Our Trade of the Woollen Manufactures, and Dependers thereupon, and By Enabling France, Holland and Flanders, &c. (now greatly striving for that End) to deprive us of it.

II. Want of Employment for the Poor will be a Cause,

Of Great Charges upon Lands and Estates to Maintain them;

Or of their Starving:

Or of Exporting themselves whither Wool is Exported, &c.

And Starving or Exporting themselves for want of Employment, will not only be a Cause of the falling of the Value of Lands, by lessening the Number of the Confumers of the Products thereof, but also of Weakening the Nation; for the fewer the People shall be, the less the value of Lands must needs be, and the less the Strength of the Nation.

And maintaining them here in Idleness (which is the bane of Humane Nature) will also Empoverish the Nation, and be of very dangerous Consequence.

For the Poorer the Nation shall be, tho' Populous, the less its Defence. If Riches may be allow'd to be the Sinews of War, a Thing never to be diffregarded. So that 'twill be bad for the Nation, if the Poor People shall live here under such Idle and Chargeable Circumstances, or Starve, or go Away.

The less Occasion there shall be of our Manufactures abroad (by means of the Exporta-III. tion of Wooll,

The less Occasion for Shipping, and the Poorer and Weaker the Nation in Gene-

ral must needs be

Our Manufactures Exported (and not the fingle Products of our Lands) being the chief Cause of our Riches, which are brought from other Nations in return for the same.

- It has been calculated by a mean Proportion, that the Nation loses Six of Seven times the Value of all Wooll Exported by its being Manufactured by Foreigners, instead of our own People (all that's got by Labour, Industry and Art, being clearly gain'd) and the loss already has been accounted to be between Two and Three Millions per Annum by that Rule (which is very much within the Compass of Possibility and Probability.)
- Exportation of Wooll has been modestly reckon'd to be 60000 l. per Annum loss to the King, in his Customs Outwards, besides the consequential Loss Inwards, much greater.

 And these Evils may still increase without prevention, and if so, then we may by degrees be prejudicially supply'd by Foreigners, with their Manufactures made of our Wooll, instead of our supplying them; and so our Loss will be double.
- There are leveral well-intended Laws already made for Remedy thereof, but the same could not be effectually put in Execution, for want of a Fund to defray the Charge of the Management of fo good a Work.
- If your Honours shall be pleas'd, by a new, more effectual Law, to establish a necessary Fund, for Salleries for a sufficient Number of proper Officers, to be legally deputed to hinder the Exportation of Wooll, under the management of Men, well Skill'd and Interested in the Woollen Manufactures, according to late Votes of Parliament, it is undoubtedly believed that these Evils will soon have an End.

All which is humbly offer'd to the Great Wisdom of this Honourable House, with all Submission, &c.

A Romercian of Great Evils, Alian by the Exponention of Wool.

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